

When Dr. Farlow published his *Marine Algae of New England*, in 1881, he noted its occurrence sparingly from Newport, Rhode Island to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. After that assiduous collector, Dr. Frank S. Collins, had spent years in the study of the marine algae of the Casco Bay, Maine he failed to find this species. But he noted that there was a specimen in the herbarium of the Portland Society of Natural History without exact locality.¹

In the summer of 1931 I gathered three specimens, on *Laminaria*, in Bluehill Bay, Maine. These have been deposited in the National Herbarium. Since that time, a careful search has failed to locate further material.

It would seem that this form is not well adapted to our cold waters. Though the typical species is profusely ramose, these specimens bore only three to five branches and presented the appearance of a severely pruned shrub. While elsewhere this form is two to four inches high, our specimens were only about twelve mm. high. But abundant sporangia were present, as were two unmistakable characters which mark this aberrant species. In other *Ectocarpi* the chromatophores are band-shaped and more or less spiral; here, they looked like discs punched from a bronze plate. Furthermore, the filaments were enclosed in so dense a felt of corticating cells that one might pardon Kuetzing's attempt to place this species in a separate genus, *Corticularia*.—R. E. SCHUH, Brooklin, Maine.

RANUNCULUS neglectus (Greene), comb. nov. *Cyrtorhyncha neglecta* Greene, *Pittonia*, iv. 146 (1900). Type locality: "Ravines about Golden City," Jefferson Co., Colorado.

This species is a very local endemic in Jefferson Co. It is evident from Greene's statement, l. c., 147, that Mr. E. Bethel collected the material upon which Greene based his description at least in part. Specimens from the "Exact type locality, dry hillside, Mt. Morrison, Jefferson Co., alt. 2120 m." collected June 3, 1921 by *E. Bethel & I. W. Clokey* 4118 will be distributed in *Plantae Exsiccatae Grayanae*. Although the two statements of the type locality differ, in actuality they mean the same place.

Rydberg, *Flora Colorado*, 146 (1906), in his key to *Cyrtorhyncha* points out the characters distinguishing this species from its nearest relative, *Ranunculus ranunculinus* (Nutt.) Rydb. (*R. Nuttallii* Gray).

¹ *Proc. Portl. Soc. Nat. Hist.* vol. II. p. 269.

Oxygraphis Bunge, Verz. Suppl. Fl. Alt., 46 (1836) seems doubtfully distinct from *Ranunculus*. *Oxygraphis* is prior to *Cyrtorhyncha* Nutt. ex Torrey and Gray, Flora North America i. 26 (1838). Benson, Am. Journ. Bot. xxiii. 27 (1936) considers *Cyrtorhyncha* a subgenus of *Ranunculus*.—LOUIS C. WHEELER, Gray Herbarium.

SPRING FLOWERS IN AUTUMN.—The exceptional and almost unprecedented hot and arid summer in Oklahoma followed by abnormal rains and cool weather during the fall has brought several plants which normally flower only in the spring, into full bloom in October. On a recent field trip (October 10th) I was very much surprised to find *Nothoscordum bivalve* (L.) Britton, *Oxalis violacea* L., *Sagittaria latifolia* Willd., *Viola Rafinesquii* Greene, and *Claytonia virginica* L. in full flowering condition. In addition, numerous cultivated flowering shrubs are in bud at the present time, giving a decidedly vernal aspect to the autumnal vegetation.

From June 5th until the middle of September no rain fell in the vicinity of Norman (except for a 5-minute shower in mid-July) but during the last two weeks of September it rained almost constantly every day for 14 days, and during the first part of October, although the days were cool and clear, there were numerous showers. The summer was unusually hot with the temperature often reaching 100° and higher, and botanizing during July and August yielded very poor results. Legumes, grasses, euphorbias, composites and numerous other large groups of plants which are characteristic of the midsummer prairie flora were either totally dead or in such poor condition that specimens were not worth collecting. But the late appearance of the fall rains with cool weather brought out interesting spring plants and made the autumnal collecting interesting, varied and profuse.—MILTON HOPKINS, The University of Oklahoma.

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